



LUND UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Social Sciences

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Graduate School Newsletter

Faculty of Social Science

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, GLOBAL STUDIES AND SOCIAL STUDIES OF GENDER



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A Letter from Lena

Lena Örnberg, Director of Studies, Graduate School

I am happy to welcome you to Graduate School's first newsletter! From now on, we plan to send out a newsletter twice a year, telling you about recent developments at Graduate School, as well as putting a spotlight on some of our teachers, current students and alumni. I have been the director of Graduate School for three years now and my job is both inspiring and challenging. I am proud of the three programmes, Global Studies, Development Studies and Social Studies of Gender, and I firmly believe that mixing perspectives, majors, experiences and nationalities in the classroom is the best way to tackle social problems. Keeping all the different parts of Graduate School together, which is my major task, is challenging but never dull.

This autumn I am the course director for the internship course, and reading the students' reflection papers has been a truly rewarding experience. I have high expectations for the internship reports! For this spring I look forward to the Development practitioners' seminars that I hope will provide opportunities for many interesting discussions.

If you have ideas on what should be included in our newsletter, or would like to submit a contribution, please let us know.



Student Snapshots

Katharina Kehl's Internship September 2 – October 31, 2013 at Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB), Berlin, Germany. Katharina is a student in the Global Studies programme, batch 2012.

Once I finish my master's degree, I plan to go on to do a PhD in the social sciences. I therefore decided to use the autumn term to gain some real-life research experience by doing an internship at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center, an independent German research institute specialised in interdisciplinary work. I am in the department "Migration, Integration, Transnationalisation", more specifically, I work with a research project on Muslims in Western European societies. I conduct a content analysis of Swedish newspaper coverage of Muslim issues, focusing on political claim-making. Concentrating on one very specific issue in this way nicely supplements the broader approach we often take within Global Studies and it gives me the chance to apply some of the methodological skills I gained last year. The data I gather during my three months at the WZB will be the foundation for my master thesis, so that my degree will interlink directly with my internship. If I get lucky, I might even be able to publish my findings, maybe in cooperation with one of my current colleagues at the WZB. First and foremost, however, this internship has given me a really good idea of what it is like to work as a researcher and has strengthened my decision to do a PhD.

Katharina Kehl



Student Lenses

Pictures submitted by students which capture some of their experiences. If you would like to submit a picture that reflects your student experience, please submit this to: master@sam.lu.se



Photo by Antony Lee:
Indonesian students with batik, the Indonesian national clothes, in front of the AF Building commemorating the National Batik Day.



Photo by Antony Lee
Flowers, water fountain, Lund University Main Building, and summer: what a perfect combination



Photo by Marco Danieli
Six students of the master's programme in Global Studies assisting at the parade for the independence day in Gdansk while on a class trip

Our Alumni: Where Are They Now?

In each issue of the newsletter we will present an alumnus. In this issue we include Mohammed Ghafour who studied Master of Science in Development Studies and graduated in 2011.



I was born in Feb 1982 in Halabja town in the Kurdistan Region-KR of Iraq. Winning a scholarship from the Erasmus Mundus Program in 2008 gave me a great opportunity to be enrolled in the Development Studies Program at Lund University. I have a major in Political Science from Salahaddin University in Erbil-Kurdistan.

Returning to my home country (Kurdistan) in 2011 became the obvious choice after I graduated in 2011. Due to my personal interest and academic background, I decided to get involved in the humanitarian field. Luckily, Danish Refugee Council-DRC became my very first experience, where I worked as a project coordinator for nearly two years, providing capacity

building in disaster response and management. After DRC, I also worked with Handicap International-HI on, again, providing capacity building trainings to local authorities and organizations. Meanwhile, I worked voluntarily for several LNGOs as a consultant. Perhaps gradually moving from NGOs into UN refugee agency-UNHCR can be considered one of my biggest achievements career-wise. Since April 2013, I have worked as a Senior Protection Assistant with UNHCR at Erbil office in Kurdistan. With UNHCR my role is to assist our senior staff on individual cases, coordinate with local authorities on protection issues and protection monitoring in Basirma refugee Camp, located 60km from Erbil city; the size of the camp is 5000 individuals and all the refugees are Syrian Kurds. Besides my humanitarian experience, I have also experienced teaching undergraduate political science students in my home university for one and a half year. The caseloads of Asylum Seekers and Refugees are mainly Kurds from Iran, Kurds from Turkey and, more recently, Syrian emergency.

Working with UNHCR has been very challenging for me for two reasons: firstly, the organizational experience within UN system was drastically different from my NGO background. It took me some time to adapt to the UN working environment and system. Secondly, because the exodus of Syrian refugees accelerated dramatically in recent months and, just in the Kurdistan region of Iraq alone, there are more than two hundred thousand refugees, 40% living in refugee camps and 60% populated in urban and rural areas. Sudden influxes normally bring a myriad of challenges, especially at the emergency stage, such as large needs and limited resources, particularly since women and children make up three-quarters of the refugee population. The vast majority of Syrian refugees are dependent on aid, arriving with little more than the clothes on their backs.

Applying academic knowledge to reality is the most important task of any social science student, particularly that of development studies. I can tell that the knowledge I gained in the development studies programme has so far helped me in two main ways: in terms of helping me finding the job I always wanted, and also in providing me an excellent theoretical background on development discourse and inter-

national aid concepts. However, the more I work in the field, the more there is to learn, experiences and challenges which are not so easy to find in books. Therefore, in order to avoid bureaucratic routines from discouraging you, it is crucial to be self-motivated and to never forget the spirit of humanity and helping others.

Mohammed Ghafour

What's happening at Graduate School

Research in Action: current research in the field of global health by Kristina Jönsson, Program Director of Master of Science in Development Studies.



Kristina Jönsson at a conference in Laos

My research concerns politics, development and international cooperation with a special focus on governance and policy issues in the field of health. It is an exciting field and more political than many may imagine.

Right now I am writing up research on health policies in Laos, legitimacy and legitimation strategies in the field of non-communicable (or lifestyle related) diseases, and governance and HIV/AIDS in Laos and Cambodia. In addition, a colleague and I are currently developing a project on the post-2015 development agenda in which health is an important component. We are curious about legitimacy and the agenda-setting process, how different actors can, or cannot, influence the



Kristina Jönsson at a WHO meeting about prioritising a research agenda for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

process and how this in turn affects future implementation. The field of global health has undergone tremendous changes the last two decades, much as a result of HIV/AIDS and the enormous efforts to halt it.

I believe that health will continue to be a global priority in the future because of the rapidly increasing burden of lifestyle related diseases and because health is intrinsically connected to environmental and climate change and hence also to sustainable development. This means that there will be ample opportunities for developing new interesting research projects in the years to come.

Kristina Jönsson



CONGRATULATIONS SHAI! SHAI MULINARI, ONE OF THE TEACHERS AT GRADUATE SCHOOL, LINKS POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN HIS RESEARCH

Shai recently received funding from Vetenskapsrådet for a comparative study on decision-making and risk management strategies in three Nordic countries in relation to vaccination with the swine flu vaccine.

Shai Mulinari holds a research position at the Department of Gender Studies. Shai's social science research concerns fields such as political sociology and science and technology studies (STS). Current research includes studies on the history of depression research, the regulation of the pharmaceutical industry in Sweden and the EU and research policy.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Zetterqvist, AV. and S. Mulinari. 2013. "Misleading antidepressant advertising in Sweden: a failure of pharmaceutical industry self-regulation" PLoS ONE 8(5): e62609.

Mulinari, S. 2013. "Regulating drug information in Europe: a pyrrhic victory for pharmaceutical industry critics?" *Sociology of Health and Illness*. 35(5). Online 24 October 2012.

Mulinari, S. 2012. "Monoamine theories of depression: historical impact on biomedical research." *Journal for the History of the Neurosciences*. 21(4):366-392.

HOT OFF THE DESK!

We are excited to announce that Graduate School applied and received funding for two projects: **Development Practitioner Seminar Series** and an **Online Introduction Course for new program students**.

The seminar series will be planned jointly with other development programs. We will invite professionals working in the development field in NGOs, companies and governmental branches to come and talk with students about their career paths and what it is like working at their agencies. This will also be an opportunity to ask them questions and build your own professional network. We are now finalizing the program which will be posted on our [website](#) shortly. The seminars will take place on Mondays twice a month.



Helena Petré

The Online Introduction Course for new programme students seeks to give incoming students an opportunity to have a shared starting point when beginning their Master's studies. This optional course will include aspects of student life in Lund, an introduction to academic writing, and material within the programme subjects. The course will be developed during the spring term and will be launched for the batch starting in autumn 2014.

The faculty's new **career services coordinator** Helena Petré joined the team with the task of developing strategies for strengthening and expanding the connection between social science students and the labour market, both in Sweden and internationally. We encourage you to check out her blog [here](#) where you can also book an appointment.

LUCIA LUNCH & GUEST LECTURE BY PHOTOJOURNALIST JONATHAN SARUK

On Friday December 13th we hosted our annual Lucia Lunch inviting all GDG students to warm up with some glögg and soup.

Before the lunch all students were invited to attend a guest lecture by photographer Jonathan Saruk on his work in Yemen, Afghanistan and the Congo. Jonathan has been published in the New Yorker, Newsweek, The New York Times among others and is currently working on a project on cinemas in Kabul. Highlights of the presentation included images from Afghanistan where Jonathan was embedded with US forces, images from the revolution in Yemen including close-ups of Tawakkul Karman, who went on to become one of the Nobel Peace Prize winners in 2011. Finally, Jonathan presented images of the M23 rebellion in eastern Congo, where he visited the front lines of their fight against the Congolese government and interviewed their leadership which has been accused of war crimes.



Jonathan Saruk/Getty Images

Important Dates for Spring 2014

Dec 22- January 6	Winter Break
January 20th	Courses start
January 27th	First Development Practitioner Seminar
February 28th	Application deadline exchange studies
March 25th	Courses start
April 1st	Spring Lunch
April 30th	Courses start
June 9th	3rd Annual Master's Thesis Conference
June 10th	Graduation Ceremony



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www.sam.lu.se/gs

Graduate School

Sandgatan 3
223 50 Lund, Sweden
+46 (0)46 222 4883
master@sam.lu.se
www.sam.lu.se/gs